

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/795,858

Examiner

Stefan Staicovici

Applicant(s)

MATAYA, ROBERT F.

Art Unit

1732

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed June 26, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 57-112 (now renumbered as 1-56).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>8/25/06</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/ Comment . |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed June 26, 2006 has been entered. Claims 57-112 are pending in the instant application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. William Kircher on August 25, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

- in claim 111:

- on line 6, after "mold;", on a new line, --applying resin to the fiber lay up;-- has been inserted.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art does not teach or suggest:

(a) A process for making a fiber reinforced composite part against a base mold including,

providing a flexible body structure having an interfacing surface upon which at least one resin distribution channel and at least one vacuum distribution channel are formed and extend thereacross, and at least one perimeter seal;

placing a fiber lay up on a base mold;

applying resin to the fiber lay-up;

moving the body structure onto the base mold such that the fiber lay up is covered by the interfacing surface of the body structure, thereby forming an enclosed space holding the fiber lay up;

drawing a first vacuum at said perimeter seal to engage the cause the perimeter seal to sealingly engage the base mold;

drawing a second vacuum independent from the first vacuum through the enclosed space to thereby urge the resin to travel through the resin distribution channel and across and through the fiber lay up generally in the direction of the second vacuum to form the composite part upon curing.

(b) A mold component to be used with a base mold in a closed molding process including,

a flexible body structure having a perimeter region and an interfacing surface, and integrally formed therewith at least one resin distribution channel extending across the interfacing surface and at least one vacuum distribution channel;

a perimeter seal extending from said body structure to enclose the part between the base mold and the body structure and, defining at least a portion of the vacuum distribution channel; and

at least one vacuum output port in fluid communication with each of the vacuum distribution channel and the perimeter seal vacuum portion such as to provide a first vacuum along said seal to assist sealing engagement and respectively, an independent second vacuum across said interfacing surface to assist resin distribution between the body structure and the base mold.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

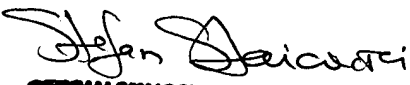
Art Unit: 1732

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stefan Staicovici, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571) 272-1208. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Johnson, can be reached on (571) 272-1176. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


STEFAN STAIKOVICI, PHD
PRIMARY EXAMINER
8/25/06
AU 1732

AU 1732

August 25, 2006